



Iowa Department of Human Services

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INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1354

DATE: February 27, 2014

TO: Iowa Medicaid Physicians, Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners (ARNPs), Certified Nurse Mid-Wives (CNM), Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), Rural Health Clinics (RHCs), and Clinics

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Tobacco Cessation Coverage Available to Medicaid Members

EFFECTIVE: April 1, 2014

Tobacco use remains a leading preventable cause of death and disease in the United States. The IME encourages health care providers to talk to their patients about smoking cessation. Explain to members that quitting smoking is the most important step they can take to improve their health, especially pregnant women. To help support smoking cessation, Iowa Medicaid coverage is available to cover intensive smoking cessation counseling, lasting more than 10 minutes in the office setting. Some frequently asked questions about smoking cessation support offered by the IME are provided below.

How should Physicians, ARNPs and Nurse Midwives bill?

- CPT code 99407 (Smoking and tobacco use cessation counseling visit; intensive, greater than 10 minutes) should be used for members who are symptomatic and adversely affected by tobacco use and/or are undergoing a treatment that is adversely affected by tobacco use.
- CPT code 99406 (Smoking and tobacco use cessation counseling visit; intensive, greater than 3 minutes up to 10 minutes) will continue to be non-covered.
- HCPCS Level II code G0437 (Smoking & Tobacco Cessation > 10 minutes) should be used for members that use tobacco but are asymptomatic.
- HCPCS Level II code G0436 (Smoking & Tobacco Cessation greater than 3 minutes up to 10 minutes), which has been open/payable will be end-dated and not allowed, effective March 31, 2014.
- Non coverage of CPT 99406 and HCPCS Level II G0436 is based on the IME's desire that practitioners provide the higher levels of service represented by 99407 and G0437.

How should FQHCs and RHCs bill?

- The appropriate encounter code should be billed for this service and CPT code 99407 should be included on the claim. Reimbursement will be made for the encounter code only. Please refer to [Informational Letter 796](#)¹ and [Informational Letter 879](#)² for claim submission requirements.

¹ http://www.ime.state.ia.us/docs/796_FQHC_RHC309vRvsd.pdf

² http://www.ime.state.ia.us/docs/879_BillingRequirementsRemindeFQHCsRHCs.pdf

How will claims be reimbursed?

- While smoking cessation billed with preventive visits have not been separately payable and have been considered part of any preventive visit, the changes noted above will now allow smoking cessation counseling (99407 or G0437) to be billed with a preventive visit.
- Smoking cessation billed with evaluation and management (E&M) services are separately payable; including during global OB services. These services will pay at the Iowa [Medicaid fee schedule](#)³.

What do I need to do to authorize smoking cessation prescriptions for Medicaid members?

- The Prior Authorization Nicotine Replacement Therapy form, [470-4421](#)⁴, is required for over-the-counter nicotine replacement patches, nicotine gum, or nicotine lozenges and prescription nicotine nasal spray or nicotine inhaler.
- The Request for Prior Authorization Smoking Cessation Therapy-Oral form, [470-4517](#)⁵, is required for Varenicline (Chantix™) and Bupropion.
- Any Request for Prior Authorization must be completed by the member and the provider and faxed to Quitline Iowa at 1-866-688-7577.

What does Quitline Iowa do once I complete the Request for Prior Authorization form?

- Quitline Iowa will follow up with the member and assess the member's smoking cessation needs. Following the initial consultation, Quitline Iowa will submit a prior authorization request to the IME.

Why does the IME disenrollment occur?

- In the event that a member chooses to disenroll from the Quitline Iowa program, the approved prior authorization form will be cancelled and notification will be faxed to the provider and pharmacy and a notification letter will be mailed to the member.

How can I educate members?

- Attached you will find two flyers that may be printed, copied, and displayed or distributed to your members that share smoking cessation support services available to them. For more information regarding the smoking cessation program, please see the [Smoking Cessation Program](#)⁶ on the IME website.

If you have any questions, please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, or locally in Des Moines at 515-256-4609 or by email at imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us.

³ http://www.ime.state.ia.us/Reports_Publications/FeeSchedule.html

⁴ http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/policyanalysis/PolicyManualPages/Manual_Documents/Forms/470-4421.pdf

⁵ <https://www.iowamedicaidpdl.com/sites/default/files/ghs-files/prior-authorization-forms/2011-06-27/smoking-cessation-pa-form-npi-july-11.pdf>

⁶ <http://www.ime.state.ia.us/Providers/SmokingCessation.html>